

From: [Hewitt, James](#)
To: [Bowman, Liz](#)
Cc: [Gray, David](#); [Wilcox, Jahan](#)
Subject: Re: For Review: First Draft of Water Release
Date: Sunday, September 3, 2017 9:58:37 AM

I can in probably 20 minutes.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 10:46 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Can one of you send this out nationally??

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jackson, Ryan" <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
Date: September 3, 2017 at 10:45:19 AM EDT
To: "Bowman, Liz" <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Ryan Vise <Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>, "Grantham, Nancy" <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>, "Coleman, Sam" <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>, "Gray, David" <gray.david@epa.gov>, "Forsgren, Lee" <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>, "Drinkard, Andrea" <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>, "Greenwalt, Sarah" <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>, "Wagner, Kenneth" <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: For Review: First Draft of Water Release

Go. Thanks.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

On Sep 3, 2017, at 10:30 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Great, thank you. Updated below:

STATUS OF WATER SYSTEMS IN AREAS

AFFECTED BY HARVEY

WASHINGTON (September 3, 2017) – Working together, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continue to coordinate with local, state and federal officials to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, especially the water systems in the affected areas. As of Saturday, September 2nd, 2017, the following information is available:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Drinking**

Water: Half (2300) of the **4500** drinking water systems potentially affected by Harvey have been contacted. Of those: 1757 systems are fully operational, 137 have boil-water notices, and 113 are shut down. The agencies are contacting remaining systems to gather updated information of their status. Assistance Teams are in the field working directly with system operators to expedite bringing systems back to operational status. Additional drinking water assessments should be up and running within the next day.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Waste Water**

and Sewage: Currently, 794 of approximately 2467 wastewater treatment plants are fully operational in the affected counties. The agencies are aware that releases of wastewater from sanitary sewers that is occurring, due to the historic flooding and are actively working to monitor facilities that have reported spills, conduct outreach and provide technical guidance to all other wastewater facilities in flood-impacted areas. EPA and TCEQ are working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Texas Military Department, and other local and state agencies to continuously monitor wastewater systems. Houston's unified command will be up and running shortly to support water testing.

Assistance Teams will be deployed to work directly with system operators to expedite bringing systems back to operational status.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Residential Wells:** EPA is developing a plan for sampling residential wells, and is coordinating with TCEQ to establish several locations where residents can bring water samples from their wells to be tested.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Flood Water:** Water quality sampling will be focused on industrial facilities and hazardous waste sites. Floodwaters contain many hazards, including bacteria and other contaminants. Precautions should be taken by anyone involved in cleanup activities or any others who may be exposed to flood waters. These precautions include heeding all warnings from local and state authorities regarding safety advisories. In addition to the drowning hazards of wading, swimming, or driving in swift floodwaters, these waters can carry large objects that are not always readily visible that can cause injuries to those in the water. Other potential hazards include downed power lines and possible injuries inflicted by animals displaced by the floodwaters.

Additional EPA/TCEQ updates include:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Superfund Sites:** EPA and TCEQ continue to get updates about the status of specific sites from the parties responsible for ongoing cleanup of the sites. The most recent information can be found [here](#).

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Air Quality Monitoring:** One of the many preparations for Hurricane Harvey included EPA, TCEQ, and other monitoring entities temporarily removing approximately 75 percent of the stationary air

monitoring equipment from the greater Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont areas. Since then, state and local authorities are working to get the systems up and running again. As of Saturday, September 2, over 70 percent of the monitors are up and working again; and authorities expect that the network will be fully operational again by next week. Of the available air monitoring data collected from August 24-September 2, 2017, all measured concentrations were well below levels of health concern. Monitors are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning and local residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm.

• **Fires at Arkema Facility in Crosby, Texas:** EPA and TCEQ are coordinating closely with Harris County Officials along with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and other local public safety officials. As a result of initial chemical fires while the facility was flooded, EPA has collected downstream surface water runoff samples at four locations outside the evacuation zone, near residential areas. EPA will maintain a 24-hour presence at the incident command operations center near this facility, to support local emergency personnel on the ground. The 1.5 mile radius evacuation zone remains in effect until local emergency response authorities announce it is safe.

• **Refineries/Fuel Waivers:** In addition to waivers for 38 states and D.C., EPA signed four No Action Assurance (NAA) letters on September 1, to help address fuel shortages. NAA will help expedite the distribution of existing gasoline supplies to both Texas and Louisiana, while the refineries work to re-start and resume normal operations. Each is effective until September 15, 2017, and should

allow for the distribution in Texas of 10 million or more gallons of gasoline to consumers.

For additional information from TCEQ, please visit:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>

From: Ryan Vise [<mailto:Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>]

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:25 AM

To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Cc: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: For Review: First Draft of Water Release

We can add some more air monitoring:

One of the many preparations for Hurricane Harvey included EPA, TCEQ, and other monitoring entities temporarily removing approximately 75% of the stationary air monitoring equipment from the greater Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont areas. Of the available air monitoring data collected from August 24-September 2, 2017, all measured concentrations were well below levels of health concern.

- More than 70% of the air monitors in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Beaumont have been re-established and are collecting data.
- EPA and TCEQ personnel are assessing monitoring stations in these areas for damage, and bringing them back online as access allows. All air monitoring stations in these areas that are accessible are expected to be back online

by [Friday, September 8, 2017](#).

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 9:14 AM, Bowman, Liz
<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

I just sent around an updated one –

STATUS OF WATER SYSTEMS IN AREAS AFFECTED BY HARVEY

WASHINGTON (September 3, 2017) – Working together, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continue to coordinate with local, state and federal officials to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, especially the water systems in the affected areas. As of Saturday, September 2nd, 2017, the following information is available:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Drinking Water:** Half (2300) of the 4500 drinking water systems potentially affected by Harvey have been contacted. Of those: 1757 systems are fully operational, 137 have boil-water notices, and 113 are shut down. The agencies are contacting remaining systems to gather updated information of their status. Assistance Teams are in the field working directly with system operators to expedite bringing systems back to operational status. Additional drinking water assessments should be up and running within the next day.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Waste Water and Sewage:**

Currently, 794 of approximately 2467 wastewater treatment plants are fully operational in the affected counties. The agencies are aware that releases of wastewater from sanitary sewers that is occurring, due to the historic flooding and are actively working to monitor facilities that have reported spills, conduct outreach and provide technical guidance to all other wastewater facilities in flood-impacted areas. EPA and TCEQ are working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Texas Military Department, and other local and state agencies to continuously monitor wastewater systems. Houston's unified command will be up and running shortly to support water testing. Assistance Teams will be deployed to work directly with system operators to expedite bringing systems back to operational status.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Residential Wells:** EPA is developing a plan for sampling residential wells, and is coordinating with TCEQ to establish several locations where residents can bring water samples from their wells to be tested.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Flood Water:** Water quality sampling will be focused on industrial facilities and hazardous

waste sites. Floodwaters contain many hazards, including bacteria and other contaminants. Precautions should be taken by anyone involved in cleanup activities or any others who may be exposed to flood waters. These precautions include heeding all warnings from local and state authorities regarding safety advisories. In addition to the drowning hazards of wading, swimming, or driving in swift floodwaters, these waters can carry large objects that are not always readily visible that can cause injuries to those in the water. Other potential hazards include downed power lines and possible injuries inflicted by animals displaced by the floodwaters.

Additional EPA/TCEQ updates include:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Superfund Sites:** EPA and TCEQ continue to get updates about the status of specific sites from the parties responsible for ongoing cleanup of the sites. The most recent information can be found [here](#).

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Air**

Quality Monitoring: Monitors are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning and local residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm. Due to quick action and proper preparation by state and local authorities, all the station ambient air quality monitors in the network

from south of Corpus Christi, to Belmont, and all the impacted areas were protected before the storm. Since then, state and local authorities are working to get the systems up and running again. As of Saturday, September 2, over 70 percent of the monitors are up and working again; and authorities expect that the network will be fully operational again by next week.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Fires at Arkema Facility in Crosby,**

Texas: EPA and TCEQ are coordinating closely with Harris County Officials along with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and other local public safety officials. As a result of initial chemical fires while the facility was flooded, EPA has collected downstream surface water runoff samples at four locations outside the evacuation zone, near residential areas. EPA will maintain a 24-hour presence at the incident command operations center near this facility, to support local emergency personnel on the ground. The 1.5 mile radius evacuation zone remains in effect until local emergency response authorities announce it is safe.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]--

>**Refineries/Fuel Waivers: In**

addition to waivers for 38 states and D.C., EPA signed four No Action Assurance (NAA) letters on September 1, to help address fuel shortages. NAA will help expedite

the distribution of existing gasoline supplies to both Texas and Louisiana, while the refineries work to re-start and resume normal operations. Each is effective until September 15, 2017, and should allow for the distribution in Texas of 10 million or more gallons of gasoline to consumers.

For additional information from TCEQ, please visit:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>

From: Grantham, Nancy
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:14 AM
To: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ryan Vise <Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: For Review: First Draft of Water Release

Eoc hq water desk looking at this quickly ..
thanks ng

Nancy Grantham
Office of Public Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-6879 (desk)
202-253-7056 (mobile)

From: Jackson, Ryan
Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ryan

Vise <Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>; Gray, David
<gray.david@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee
<Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea
<Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy
<Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Greenwalt,
Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Wagner,
Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: For Review: First Draft of Water
Release

Let's go ahead with this release and we can
supplement trailer information later.

Is there a link to the superfund site information
which can be included in this? We need to go
ahead and send.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

On Sep 3, 2017, at 9:51 AM, Coleman, Sam
<Coleman.Sam@epa.gov> wrote:

No fire overnight trailers are
smoldering but not burning. As of
30 min ago.

Samuel Coleman, P.E.
Deputy Regional Administrator
EPA Region 6
coleman.sam@epa.gov
214.665.2100 Ofc
214.665.3110 Direct
214.789.2016 Cell

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Sunday, September 03,
2017 8:49 AM
To: Ryan Vise
<Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>
Cc: Coleman, Sam
<Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Gray,

David <gray.david@epa.gov>;
Forsgren, Lee
<Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>;
Drinkard, Andrea
<Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>;
Grantham, Nancy
<Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>;
Greenwalt, Sarah
<greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>;
Wagner, Kenneth
<wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>;
Jackson, Ryan
<jackson.ryan@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: For Review: First
Draft of Water Release

Thank you all, I am mocking this
up to go out shortly with
everyone's edits. I haven't
heard anything additional about
the Arkema fire, so I think we
can still send this out this
morning.

From: Ryan Vise
[<mailto:Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>]

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017
8:04 AM

To: Bowman, Liz
<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Coleman, Sam
<Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Gray,
David <gray.david@epa.gov>;
Forsgren, Lee
<Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>;
Drinkard, Andrea
<Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>;
Grantham, Nancy
<Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>;
Greenwalt, Sarah
<greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>;
Wagner, Kenneth
<wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>;

Jackson, Ryan

<jackson.ryan@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: For Review: First
Draft of Water Release

Looks good, One minor
suggestion re: Arkema.

I don't know if we should
mention the controlled burn since
it hasn't been reschedule.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 7:00 AM,
Bowman, Liz
<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at
3:06 AM, Coleman,
Sam
<Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>
wrote:

A
couple
of
situational
changes:

STATUS
OF
WATER
SYSTEMS
IN
AREAS
AFFECTED

BY
HARVEY

WASHINGTON
(September
3,
2017)

—

Working
together,
the
U.S.
Environmental
Protection
Agency
(EPA)
and
the
Texas
Commission
on
Environmental
Quality
(TCEQ)
continue
to
coordinate
with
local,
state
and
federal
officials
to
address
the
human
health
and
environmental
impacts

of
Hurricane
Harvey
and its
aftermath,
especially
the
water
systems
in the
affected
areas.

As of
Saturday,
September
2nd,
2017,
the
following
information
is
available:

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>•
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Drinking
Water:**
Of
the
approximately
4512
drinking
water
systems
in
the

affected
area,
1757
systems
are
fully
operational,
98
are
partially
operational,
with
a
“boil
water”
notice,
and
49
continue
to
have
outages.
The
agencies
are
contacting
189
systems
to
gather
updated
information
of
their
status.

Assistance

Teams

are

in

the

field

working
directly
with
system
operators
to
expedite
bringing
systems
back
to
operational
status.

Additional
drinking
water
assessments
should
be
up
and
running
within
the
next
day.

```
<!--  
[if  
!supportLists]-  
-  
>•  
<!--  
-  
[endif]-  
-  
>Waste  
Water  
and  
Sewage:  
Currently,
```

794
of
approximately
2467
wastewater
treatment
plants
are
fully
operational
in
the
affected
counties.
The
agencies
are
aware
that
releases
of
wastewater
from
sanitary
sewers
that
is
occurring,
due
to
the
historic
flooding
and
are
actively
working
to
monitor
facilities
that

have
reported
spills,
conduct
outreach
and
provide
technical
guidance
to
all
other
wastewater
facilities
in
flood-
impacted
areas.
EPA
and
TCEQ
are
working
closely
with
the
U.S.
Coast
Guard,
the
Texas
Military
Department,
and
other
local
and
state
agencies
to
continuously

monitor
wastewater
systems.
Houston's
unified
command
will
be
up
and
running
shortly
to
support
water
testing.

Assistance

Teams

will

be

deployed

to

work

directly

with

system

operators

to

expedite

bringing

systems

back

to

operational

status.

<!--

[if

!supportLists]-

-

>•

<!--

-
[endif]-
-

>**Residential**

Wells:

EPA
is
developing
a
plan
for
sampling
residential
wells,
and
is
coordinating
with
TCEQ
to
establish
several
locations
where
residents
can
bring
water
samples
from
their
wells
to
be
tested.

NOTE:

We
need
to
start
this

process

asap

<!--

[if

!supportLists]-

-

>•

<!--

-

[endif]-

-

>**Critical**

Water

Infrastructure:

The

agencies

are

continuing

to

work

closely

with

the

dams.

The

larger

dams

are

full

in

many

cases,

and

may

be

releasing

water,

the

structures

are

secure

—

at
this
time.

NOTE:

USACE

is
responsible
for
the
two
large
dams
that
are
getting
a
lot
of
Media
attention
Addicks,
and
Barker

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>•
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Flood**
Water:
Water
quality
sampling
will
be
focused
on

industrial
facilities
and
hazardous
waste
sites.

Floodwaters
contain
many
hazards,
including
bacteria
and
other
contaminants.

Precautions
should
be
taken
by
anyone
involved
in
cleanup
activities
or
any
others
who
may
be
exposed
to
flood
waters.

These
precautions
include
heeding
all
warnings

from
local
and
state
authorities
regarding
safety
advisories.

In
addition
to
the
drowning
hazards
of
wading,
swimming,
or
driving
in
swift
floodwaters,
these
waters
can
carry
large
objects
that
are
not
always
readily
visible
that
can
cause
injuries
to
those
in

the
water.
Other
potential
hazards
include
downed
power
lines
and
possible
injuries
inflicted
by
animals
displaced
by
the
floodwaters.

**Additional
EPA/TCEQ
updates
include:**

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>•
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Superfund
Sites:**
EPA
and
TCEQ
continue
to
get
updates

about
the
status
of
specific
sites
from
the
parties
responsible
for
ongoing
cleanup
of
the
sites.
The
most
recent
information
can
be
found
[here](#)

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>●
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Air
Quality
Monitoring:**
Monitors
are
showing
that
air

quality
at
this
time
is
not
concerning
and
local
residents
should
not
be
concerned
about
air
quality
issues
related
to
the
effects
of
the
storm.
Due
to
quick
action
and
proper
preparation
by
State
and
local
authorities,
all
the
station
ambient

air
quality
monitors
in
the
network
from
south
of
Corpus
Christi,
to
Belmont,
and
all
the
impacted
areas
were
protected
before
the
storm.
Since
then,
state
and
local
authorities
are
working
to
get
the
systems
up
and
running
again.
As
of

Saturday,
September
2,
over
70
percent
of
the
monitors
are
up
and
working
again;
and
authorities
expect
that
the
network
will
be
fully
operational
again
by
next
week.

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>●
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Fires**
at
Arkema
Facility

**in
Crosby,
Texas:**

EPA
and
TCEQ
are
coordinating
closely
with
Harris
County
Officials
along
with
the
U.S.
Department
of
Homeland
Security,
and
other
local
public
safety
officials.

Due
to
the
increased
risk
of
unpredictable
fires
at
the
remaining
trailers,
experts
on

the
ground
decided
that
the
best
course
of
action
was
to
ignite
a
controlled
fire
for
the
remaining
trailers
on
Saturday
evening,
September
2nd.

However,
at
approximately
this
approach
was
suspended
because
the
trailers
began
to
smolder
and
are
expected
to

spontaneously
ignite.

As
a
result
of
initial
chemical
fires
while
the
facility
was
flooded,
EPA
has
collected
downstream
surface
water
runoff
samples
at
four
locations
outside
the
evacuation
zone,
near
residential
areas.

In
addition,
EPA
will
maintain
a
24-
hour
presence
■

at
the
incident
command
operations
center
near
this
facility,

to
support
local
emergency
personnel
on
the
ground.

The
1.5
mile
radius
evacuation
zone
remains
in
effect
until
local
emergency
response
authorities
announce
it
is
safe.

For
additional
information
from
TCEQ,

please

visit:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>

Sorry
this is
so late.
Had to
sleep.

Samuel
Coleman,
P.E.
Deputy
Regional
Administrator
EPA
Region
6

coleman.sam@epa.gov

214.665.2100

Ofc

214.665.3110

Direct

214.789.2016

Cell

From:

Bowman,
Liz

Sent:

Saturday,
September
02,
2017
8:48
PM

To:

Coleman,
Sam
<Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>;
Ryan
Vise
<Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov>;
Gray,

David
<gray.david@epa.gov>;
Forsgren,
Lee
<Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>;
Drinkard,
Andrea
<Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>;
Grantham,
Nancy
<Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>;
Greenwalt,
Sarah
<greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>;
Wagner,
Kenneth
<wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>

Cc:

Jackson,
Ryan
<jackson.ryan@epa.gov>

Subject:

For
Review:
First
Draft of
Water
Release

Below,
please
find a
first
draft
of a
release
on the
status
of
water
systems
in the

Harvey
affected
area. I
highlighted
the
areas
where
I need
some
help
with
numbers.

Please
review
this
and let
me
know if
you
have
thoughts
or
edits.

This is
just a
first
draft
and I
am a
little
tired,
so
edits
are
welcome.

**The
goal is
to get
this
out
first**

**thing
tomorrow
morning.**

Thank
you –
Liz

STATUS
OF
WATER
SYSTEMS
IN
AREAS
AFFECTED
BY
HARVEY

WASHINGTON
(September
3,
2017)

–

Working
together,
the
U.S.
Environmental
Protection
Agency
(EPA)
and
the
Texas
Commission
on
Environmental
Quality
(TCEQ)
continue

to
coordinate
with
local,
state
and
federal
officials
to
address
the
human
health
and
environmental
impacts
of
Hurricane
Harvey
and its
aftermath,
especially
the
water
systems
in the
affected
areas.

As of
Saturday,
September
2nd,
2017,
the
following
information
is
available:

<!--

[if

!supportLists]-

-

>●

<!-

-

[endif]-

-

>**Drinking**

Water:

Of

the

approximately

xx

drinking

water

systems

in

the

affected

area,

1757

systems

are

fully

operational,

98

are

partially

operational,

with

a

“boil

water”

notice,

and

49

continue

to

have

outages.

The

agencies

are

contacting
189
systems
to
gather
updated
information
of
their
status.
Additional
drinking
water
assessments
should
be
up
and
running
within
the
next
day.

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>•
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Waste
Water
and
Sewage:**
Currently,
794
of
approximately

xxx

wastewater
treatment
plants
are
fully
operational
in
the
affected
counties.
The
agencies
are
aware
that
releases
of
wastewater
from
sanitary
sewers
that
is
occurring,
due
to
the
historic
flooding
and
are
actively
working
to
monitor
facilities
that
have
reported
spills,

conduct
outreach
and
provide
technical
guidance
to
all
other
wastewater
facilities
in
flood-
impacted
areas.
EPA
and
TCEQ
are
working
closely
with
the
U.S.
Coast
Guard,
the
U.S.
National
Guard,
the
Texas
State
Guard,
and
other
local
and
state
agencies
to

continuously
monitor
wastewater
systems.
Houston's
unified
command
will
be
up
and
running
shortly
to
support
water
testing.

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>●
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Residential
Wells:**
EPA
is
developing
a
plan
for
sampling
and
monitoring
residential
wells,
and
is

coordinating
with
TCEQ
to
provide
updates
to
the
community
on
the
status
of
water
from
residential
well
water.

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-
-
>●
<!--
-
[endif]-
-
>**Critical
Water
Infrastructure:**
The
agencies
are
continuing
to
work
closely
with
the
dams;
some

of
the
smaller
dam
systems
have
failed;
while
all
the
large
water
dams
are
full
and
may
be
releasing
water,
the
structures
seem
to
be
secure
at
this
time.

```
<!--  
[if  
!supportLists]-  
-  
>●  
<!--  
-  
[endif]-  
-  
>Flood  
Water:  
Water
```

quality
sampling
is
focused
on
industrial
facilities
and
hazardous
waste
sites.
Floodwaters
may
contain
many
hazards,
including
bacteria
and
other
disease
agents.
Precautions
should
be
taken
by
anyone
involved
in
cleanup
activities
or
any
others
who
may
be
exposed
to
flood

waters.
These
precautions
include
heeding
all
warnings
from
local
and
state
authorities
regarding
boil
water
notices,
swimming
advisories,
or
other
safety
advisories.
In
addition
to
the
drowning
hazards
of
wading,
swimming,
or
driving
in
swift
floodwaters,
these
waters
can
carry
large

objects
that
are
not
always
readily
visible
that
can
cause
injuries
to
those
in
the
water.
Other
potential
hazards
include
downed
power
lines
and
possible
injuries
inflicted
by
animals
displaced
by
the
floodwaters.

**Additional
EPA/TCEQ
updates
include:**

<!--
[if
!supportLists]-

-

>●

<!--

-

[endif]-

-

>**Superfund**

Sites:

EPA

and

TCEQ

continue

to

get

updates

about

the

status

of

specific

sites

from

the

parties

responsible

for

ongoing

cleanup

of

the

sites.

The

most

recent

information

can

be

found

[here](#)

<!--

[if

!supportLists]-

-

>●

<!--

-

[endif]-

-

>**Air**

Quality

Monitoring:

Monitors

are

showing

that

air

quality

at

this

time

is

not

concerning

and

local

residents

should

not

be

concerned

about

air

quality

issues

related

to

the

effects

of

the

storm.

Due

to

quick
action
and
proper
preparation
by
local
authorities,
all
the
station
ambient
air
quality
monitors
in
the
network
from
south
of
Corpus
Christi,
to
Belmont,
and
all
the
impacted
areas
were
protected
before
the
storm.
Since
then,
local
authorities
are
working

to
get
the
systems
up
and
running
again.
As
of
Saturday,
September
2,
over
70
percent
of
the
monitors
are
up
and
working
again;
and
authorities
expect
that
the
network
will
be
fully
operational
again
by
next
week.

<!--
[if

!supportLists]-

-

>●

<!-

-

[endif]-

-

>**Fires**

at

Arkema

Facility

in

Crosby,

Texas:

EPA

and

TCEQ

are

coordinating

closely

with

the

U.S.

Department

of

Homeland

Security,

along

with

local

public

safety

officials.

Due

to

the

increased

risk

of

unpredictable

fires

at

the
remaining
trailers,
experts
on
the
ground
decided
that
the
best
course
of
action
was
to
ignite
a
controlled
fire
for
the
remaining
trailers
on
Saturday
evening,
September
2nd.

As
a
result
of
initial
chemical
fires
from
the
facility,
EPA
has

collected
downstream
surface
water
runoff
samples
at
four
locations
outside
the
evacuation
zone,
near
residential
areas.
EPA
will
continue
to
take
additional
samples
of
the
flood
water
in
the
vicinity
of
the
plant,
to
document
changes
in
the
concentration
of
chemicals.

In
addition,
EPA
will
maintain
a
24-
hour
presence
at
the
incident
command
operations
center
near
this
facility,
to
support
local
emergency
personnel
on
the
ground.
The
1.5
mile
radius
evacuation
zone
remains
in
effect
until
local
emergency
response
authorities
announce

it
is
safe.

For
additional
information
from
TCEQ,
please
visit:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>

Liz
Bowman
U.S.
Environmental
Protection
Agency
(EPA)
Office:
202-
564-
3293